

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20 TRSE-00

OMB-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 DRC-01 FDRE-00 (ADP) W

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P R 201415Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7553

AMCONSUL LAHORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, PK

SUBJECT: ESTIMATES OF FLOOD DAMAGE TO COTTON AND
SUGAR CROPS

1. DURING TALKS WITH LEADERS KARACHI BUSINESS COMMUNITY
SEPTEMBER 19, ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND VISITING
EMBASSY ISLAMABAD ECONOFF NETTLES OBTAINED WHAT, WE
BELIEVE, TO BE SIGNIFICANT ESTIMATES CONCERNING FLOOD
DAMAGE TO COTTON AND SUGAR CROPS AS WELL AS ON TOTAL
COTTOO CROP WHICH MAY BE EXPECTED FROM COMING HARVEST.

2. COTTON -- ALIMOHOMED DAWOOD, MANAGING DIRECTOR,
DAWOOD COTTON MILLS, DURING HOUR-LONG DISCUSSION, SAID
EXPERIENCED REPRESENTATIVES HIS FIRM HAD MADE POST-FLOOD
SURVEY OF DAMAGE TO COTTON CROP IN PUNJAB ON BASIS OF
WHICH HE CONCLUDED THAT DAMAGE AMOUNTED TO ONLY 7 TO 10
PERCENT. HE BELIEVED THAT PRIOR TO FLOOD PAKISTAN COULD
HAVE EXPECTED COTTON CROP OF LITTLE OVER 4 MILLION BALES.
AFTER FLOOD DAMAGE CROP REDUCED TO ABOUT 3.7 MILLION
BALES. ON THIS BASIS DAWOOD THOUGHT PAKISTAN COULD EXPORT

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TOTAL ONE-HALF MILLION BALES COTTON OF 380 LBS. EACH THIS

YEAR WITHOUT IMPERILLING SUPPLY TO DOMESTIC MILLS. IN ORDER MAKE SURE OF SUFFICIENT SUPPLIES FOR LOCAL MILLS, HOWEVER, HE ADVOCATED ALLOCATION 100,000 BALES FOR EXPORT IN DECEMBER 1973 AND SUBSEQUENT 100,000 BALE ALLOCATIONS AS FINAL CROP AND CONSUMPTION FIGURES DEVELOPED.

3. DURING LATER SEPARATE INTERVIEW, RAZAK ADAMJEE AND BROTHER ABDUL HAMID ADAMJEE, WHO SENIOR DIRECTORS OF ADAMJES INDUSTRIES WITH IMPORTANT COTTON TEXTILE INTERESTS, CAME UP WITH ESTIMATE OF COTTON CROP DAMAGE WHICH WAS VERY CLOSE TO THAT OFFERED BY DAWOOD. EJAMJEE BROTHERS SAID AS RESULT THEIR SURVEYS, THEY BELIEVE DAMAGE TO COTTON CROP NOT AS HIGH AS CLAIMED BY GOP. THEY ESTIMATE DAMAGE NO HIGHER THAN 15 PERCENT AND THAT CROP THIS YEAR WILL BE NO LESS THAN 3.6 MILLION BALES AND POSSIBLY AS HIGH AS 4 MILLION BALES. ON BASIS THEIR ESTIMATES THEY CONCLUDE THERE WILL BE SUFFICIENT RAW COTTON THIS YEAR FOR ALL LOCAL CONSUMPTION PLUS 600,000 TO 800,000 BALES FOR EXPORT.

4. SUGAR -- ASKED ABOUT DAMAGE TO SUGAR CROP, DAWOOD SAID HE BELIEVED THERE WAS HARDLY ANY DAMAGE FROM FLOOD WATERS AND THAT CROP WOULD BE EXCELLENT THIS YEAR -- PROBABLY 700,000 TONS. ADAMJEE'S ALSO BELIEVED FLOODS HAD CAUSED LITTLE DAMAGE TO SUGAR CANE CROP. ADAMJEE'S THOUGHT MOST SERIOUS FOOD LOSS FROM FLOODS WOULD PROVE TO BE OF WHEAT STORED IN NON WATER-PROOF CONTAINERS CLOSE TO OR BELOW GROUND LEVEL, WHICH OFFERED NO PROTECTION FROM FLOOD WATERS.

5. COMMENT: ADAMJEE BROTHERS AND DAWOOD, WHO LEADING MEMBERS "22 FAMILIES" AND STILL IMPORTANT IN KARACHI BUSINESS WORLD, PRESUMABLY HAVE ACCESS TO ACCURATE AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION CONCERNING COTTON SUPPLY WHICH VITAL THEIR ENTERPRISES. WE ALSO BELIEVE, AS MAJOR CONSUMERS RAW COTTON IN THEIR RESPECTIVE MILLS, THEY WOULD HAVE NO ULTERIOR MOTIVE IN MINIMIZING DAMAGE TO COTTON CROP. ON CONTRARY, WOULD SEEM MORE NATURAL FOR THEM MAXIMIZE DAMAGE IN ORDER ASSURE ADEQUATE RAW COTTON SUPPLY THEIR OWN MILLS.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 20 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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